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ABSTRACT

Save the Children was founded in 1932 as a nonprofit child-assistance organization to help children and families improve their health, education, and economic opportunities. This annual report presents information on the activities of the organization for the year 2000 and details its financial position. Beginning with highlights of the year's activities, the report continues with a letter from the president and chairman of the Board of Trustees noting the receipt of two multi-million dollar grants that will enhance the organization's ability to improve the lives of poor children. Other sections of the report discuss Save the Children's efforts related to: (1) children in developing countries, including efforts to ensure children's right to good health, the Saving Newborn Lives initiative, work to increase girls' school attendance and women's economic opportunities, and meeting the challenges of global hunger; (2) children in emergencies and crisis, including the work in Ethiopia, central Asia, Mozambique, and East Timor, as well as assistance to HIV/AIDS victims and children involved in natural disasters; (3) America's forgotten children, including information on the impact of the Web of Support, providing support for after-school programs for children in poverty, supporting teen leadership, and piloting a web-based campaign to inform, connect, and mobilize teens to help children worldwide; and (4) community solutions through sponsorship, including the sponsorship of individual children and community development. A map details the national and international areas served by Save the Children and the International Save the Children Alliance. The annual report also includes the financial report, a list of organization supporters, and a list of Save the Children staff. (KB)

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ED 458 963

2000 Annual Report

Save the Children.

A Century for Children ... It Starts with Us

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Save the Children was founded in the United States in 1932 as a nonprofit child-assistance organization to make lasting, positive change in the lives of children in need. Today we work in 19 states across the United States as well as in 47 other countries in the developing world to help children and families improve their health, education and economic opportunities. We also mobilize rapid life-support assistance for children and families caught in the tragedies of natural and man-made disasters.

Save the Children is a member of the International Save the Children Alliance, an association of 26 independent organizations that provide child-oriented emergency response, development assistance and advocacy for children's rights in more than 100 countries.

Save the Children.

www.savethechildren.org

Mali, Ethiopia, United States

Albania Young Kosovo refugees pose playfully.

The Year 2000 — Highlights

In a year marked by both heartwarming success and continued suffering, Save the Children:

1. Maintained its global leadership role into the 21st century by providing relief, support and hope for the future to more than nine million children in nearly 50 countries worldwide

2. Helped avert famine from drought in Ethiopia, Pakistan and Afghanistan, and brought critical relief to victims of flooding in Mozambique, through the rapid deployment of Save the Children's emergency resources

3. Delivered educational and medical assistance to victims of HIV/AIDS, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, where the pandemic has reached alarming proportions and orphaned millions of children

4. Began the Saving Newborn Lives global initiative, thanks to a $50 million grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, to improve policies and expand programs that will reduce newborn deaths in developing countries where the problem is most severe

5. Supplied micronutrients and basic health training to more than 200,000 children in 475 schools in 11 countries through our innovative School Health and Nutrition program

6. Expanded economic opportunities through microloans for more than 87,000 women in 16 countries, enabling them to better feed and take care of an estimated 348,000 children and their families

7. Launched an education and advocacy campaign to help children by addressing the needs of their mothers through a major grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation

8. Reached over 125,000 at-risk youths in 243 rural and urban programs in 19 states through our Web of Support for U.S. Children, a national initiative to assist local communities in providing after-school programs of academic, cultural and recreational enrichment

9. Assisted local communities in Africa to build village schools and expand literacy and educational opportunities for almost 200,000 girls

10. Facilitated the relief and development support of more than 90,000 needy children and their families worldwide through the generosity of their caring sponsors in the United States

From the President and Chairman

Malawi Two friends, both AIDS orphans, sit by the shore of Lake Malawi in Chimwala.

Guatemala Maria watches as her mother, Marta, practices writing; like most women in Quiche, Marta had never learned to read or write.

Dear Friends:

We are living in an age of tremendous opportunity. The combination of unprecedented economic growth and technological progress gives us a very real chance of accomplishing our mission – to build a better future for all the world's children.

At Save the Children we know that it will take significant financial resources and political will to make this world-changing goal a reality. Consequently, we are redoubling our efforts in communications, advocacy, international cooperation and program efficiency. We will tap every available resource in order to help lead the way in making the next 100 years a century for children.

The facts speak for themselves:

- Three fourths of those individuals most frequently and severely affected by humanitarian crisis are children.
- Over the last decade, armed conflicts have killed more than 2 million children and seriously injured another 6 million.
- More than 130 million children are not in primary school; two thirds of them are girls.
- To date, 4 million children have died from HIV/AIDS, and more than 40 million will become orphaned by the disease by the year 2010.
- 600 million children – one tenth of the world's population – live on less than $1 a day.
- In the United States, 14 million children – one in every five – live below the poverty level.

The means already exist to change this dramatically. We simply have to act.

An Historic Opportunity

This year we reached a major milestone, in the form of two multi-million-dollar private grants that will enhance enormously our ability to make a world-changing impact in the lives of poor children.

Through the Saving Newborn Lives initiative, we aim to reduce the persistently high death rate of newborns in developing countries, an estimated five million babies each year.

We are grateful to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for their $50 million grant to allow Save the Children to help hundreds of thousands of the world's most vulnerable children.

This five-year initiative will address the most common and preventable causes of newborn mortality through:

- Research partnerships in medicine and technology
- Education and prenatal health services for pregnant women
- Public awareness programs
- Political mobilization with local communities to implement life-saving policies and procedures
- Expanded distribution of

El Salvador Save the Children president Charles MacCormack visits Yamina Elizabeth Torres, 11, and her sister Raquel Sarai, 7, at their community school in the rural village of Corral Viejo. The girls are among 125 children sponsored there by Save the Children. (left)
Vietnam Save the Children Board chairman Thomas Murphy at a nutrition, education and rehabilitation program in Thai Binh, where children and their mothers jointly learn about health and how to prepare nutritious food. (right)

simple, low-cost intervention measures

Through the Every Mother, Every Child campaign, we will build support for giving mothers in the developing world the tools they need to help their children survive and thrive.

Based on Save the Children's groundbreaking work with children and their mothers, this U.S. education and advocacy campaign will focus on the three factors that empower women to help their children: reproductive health care, quality education and economic opportunities. We have already begun to enlist an impressive group of celebrities, activists and grassroots volunteers to carry this message forward.

We are grateful to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation for this multimillion-dollar grant that will enable Save the Children to affect the health and success of the world's poorest children and their mothers.

A Steadfast Commitment

In the year 2000, Save the Children was again called upon to provide emergency humanitarian relief to children in crisis throughout the world.

Fortunately, with existing field offices in the affected regions of Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe, we were well prepared to assume a leadership role in the world's response to a number of natural disasters, armed conflicts and potentially devastating health crises.

Emergency relief was mobilized, for example, to help avert famine in Ethiopia, Afghanistan, Georgia, Pakistan and Tajikistan, and to assist victims of devastating floods in Mozambique. We provided urgently needed assistance to hundreds of thousands of displaced East Timorese who fled their homes to escape local armed conflict.

We also began rehabilitative programs to ensure the long-term success of our disaster relief efforts in Nicaragua following Hurricane Mitch and in Kosovo during the war.

There are, of course, millions of poor children and families also living right here in the United States. Save the Children continued successfully last year to innovate and expand a number of sustainable, community-based programs that helped these children and adolescents overcome the limitations of poverty.

Inspiring and supporting us throughout the year were the hundreds of thousands of people whose contributions, knowledge, energy and compassion have allowed this work to take place. We share their commitment on behalf of the world's poorest children, and with their continued help we will make an even greater impact in the future.

This September, Save the Children will have the opportunity to continue its global leadership role in helping and protecting children in need at the UN General Assembly Special Session on Children. We are honored to be a part of this international gathering, and to work with leaders in government, nongovernmental organizations, advocacy groups, as well as children themselves, to keep children's rights prominent on the world agenda and to ensure the possibility of a better life for children.

There is so much to be done ... let it start with us.

Charles F. MacCormack
President

Thomas S. Murphy
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Children in Developing Countries

Mali

Nepal Women attend a monthly class in Raghunathpur to learn about reproductive health, family planning and safe motherhood from local volunteers trained by Save the Children.

In many developing countries, there are children who live with barely enough food, shelter and basic health care to survive from one day to the next. Many also live without access to education and have little hope for the future. With many decades of experience and dedicated staff throughout the world, Save the Children is in a position to lead the way to a better life for these children.

Woman/Child Impact Approach

Relief and development programs at Save the Children are based on the inextricable linkage between the well-being of the world's mothers and their children. That linkage is evident in the fact that:

- An estimated 90 percent of infants in developing countries whose mothers die during or soon after childbirth will die by their first birthday.
- Higher rates of female literacy are strongly associated with lower rates of death for children under the age of five; each additional year of education is associated with a 5 to 10 percent reduction in child mortality.

In other words, when mothers thrive, children thrive.

With these facts in mind, Save the Children seeks to:

- Help prevent the estimated 500,000 women from dying each year from preventable, pregnancy-related causes
- Help meet the large and growing need for high-quality, voluntary family planning information and services
- Reduce the rate of illiteracy among women, who constitute 70 percent of the world's illiterate population
- Ensure that women, who have borne a disproportionately large share of the HIV/AIDS burden, have access to programs dealing with prevention and care
- Engage women, who constitute 70 percent of those living in poverty, in microenterprises that enhance their economic and social status

When working to overcome these tragic conditions, Save the Children's success lies in its focus on women and children, and especially on participatory programs that identify and address their needs at the community level. Acting with and through a global network of experienced professionals, Save the Children creates partnerships that build the capacity of local organizations to sustain successful programs.

This Woman/Child Impact approach, supported by a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development, has helped to build the capacity of Save the Children and our local partners to plan and implement programs that are gender- and culture-sensitive, and that provide these essentials:

- Preventive and curative health care to ensure child survival
- Access for women to health and family planning services
- Basic education
- Economic opportunities
- Food security

Collectively, these programs help to break the cycle of disease, illiteracy and poverty that millions of women and children face each day in many developing countries.

The Right to Good Health

Nothing is more basic to a child's well-being than good health. With a global network of over 300 health professionals and our partnership with ministries of health, local and international nongovernmental organizations and private donors, Save the Children's health programs in developing countries benefit children of all ages.

Child Survival

Every year, 10 million children die before reaching their fifth birthday, many from causes that are simple to prevent or treat.

Save the Children is a recognized world leader in building programs that address the most important causes of poor health among infants and young children.

Designed in partnership with local leaders in each community, child survival programs often include:

- Increased access to, and use of, immunizations
- Improved diagnosis and treatment of pneumonia

Vietnam Trinh Thi Vinh and her sons sort green bean seeds purchased with a loan from one of Save the Children's financial credit programs.

- Increased availability and use of micronutrients, especially Vitamin A, for children six months to five years old
- Control of diarrhea, with a special focus on the use of oral rehydration therapy and appropriate feeding during and after bouts of diarrhea

In Nepal, for example, community health volunteers worked in a child survival project to improve mothers' knowledge and practice of health-protective behaviors at home. This more than doubled the percentage of mothers who learned how to recognize and seek treatment for pneumonia in children under the age of two.

Reproductive Health for Women

A child's chances for a healthy life begin well before birth, with the health of the mother. Consequently, reproductive health is a major component of our programs, and includes prenatal care, maternal nutrition, improved obstetric care, skilled birth attendants, vaccination against tetanus, the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases, and voluntary family planning.

Programs such as these, developed and implemented in close cooperation with community leaders and in keeping with local values, have yielded many success stories within the past year:

- In Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, approximately 126,000 students between the ages of 13 and 22 and their teachers in 25 government high schools are participating in a Save the Children–sponsored program to improve adolescent reproductive health.
- In rural Vietnam, where infant mortality rates are nearly 40 percent higher than the urban average, safe motherhood — which improves infant survival — is promoted through enhanced prenatal care and improved delivery practices at home and in hospitals, as well as through community education in maternal and reproductive health.
- In Nepal, where improving maternal survival was the first imperative, Save the Children has focused on the need for greater skilled attendance at childbirth and cleaner birth practices through the promotion and distribution of simple, inexpensive Clean Home Delivery Kits. (See "Reducing the Risk in Childbirth" on p. 8.)

Save the Children is also a lead partner of NGO Networks for Health, an innovative, five-year global health project funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development to improve reproductive health, child survival, and HIV/AIDS information and services in developing countries. NGO Network activities are under way in Armenia, Ethiopia, Malawi, Nicaragua and Vietnam, and new activities are planned in five more countries during the coming year.

The project seeks to build partnerships between and among private organizations, communities and governments to help ensure that people have access to the family planning information and services they need and want, and to improved child health, pregnancy-related, and HIV/AIDS information and services.

School Health and Nutrition

In our experience, health and nutrition programs delivered through local schools and with community support are extremely effective both in improving children's health and in enhancing their performance in school. Treating common parasites and nutritional deficiencies at school, for example, along with regular lessons on health and nutrition, has made a consistently positive impact on children's growth, health and learning.

Last year, Save the Children's School Health and Nutrition programs reached more than 200,000 children in 475 schools across Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. In Malawi, for example, where malaria remains the major cause of death among school-age children, teachers were trained in the use of disease-specific first aid treatment.

In Mali, schools are now being used as vehicles for delivery of iron supplements to counter the detrimental

Gates Foundation Asks Save the Children to Lead in Saving Newborn Lives

With an unprecedented $50 million, five-year grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Save the Children has launched Saving Newborn Lives, a worldwide effort to save the lives of the world's most vulnerable children — newborn infants in developing countries.

The Gates award represents the largest private grant to Save the Children in our 68-year history.

Although dramatic improvements have been made in the survival rates of infants and young children, every year approximately 5 million babies still die within the first 28 days of life. The major causes, many of which are preventable, include infections, complications during delivery, birth defects and premature birth. Almost all newborn deaths occur in Asia and Africa, 90 percent of them at home and without a trained health provider.

Many newborns could be saved through better prenatal care and childbirth practices and simple, low-cost technologies.

A Dramatic New Initiative

Saving Newborn Lives is an ambitious new initiative that will

- Focus global and national attention on the issue in key countries
- Develop policies and programs where the situation is most critical
- Improve the technologies and approaches available
- Support action-research that advances the state of the art related to newborn care and survival

This is an important opportunity for Save the Children to make a very tangible impact on this critical situation. With nearly seven decades of experience in community-based solutions to health and development problems, proficiency in Woman/Child Impact programs and an operational presence in over 45 developing countries, we are particularly suited to undertake this initiative.

Save the Children also has the technical expertise of over 300 health professionals, and solid working relationships with government and nongovernmental organizations in developing countries.

A Chance to Succeed

We expect to strengthen national policies and programs that address newborn health, and to support implementation of practices at the family level such as: prenatal and postpartum nutrition and health care, cleaner and safer delivery practices, promotion of immediate and exclusive breastfeeding, prevention of hypothermia and management of newborn complications such as asphyxia and infections. Once these changes are under way, we hope to build on existing program support and take the proven technologies and approaches to scale worldwide.

Vietnam Phan Thi Minh has a healthy baby at the Save the Children–supported Quang Cat Commune Hospital.

India The new Saving Newborn Lives initiative will help mothers to deliver healthy babies.

Reducing the Risk in Childbirth

Nepal's maternal and infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world: 1,500 women die for every 100,000 deliveries, and over 50,000 infants die in the first year of life.

Over 90 percent of births take place in homes, often under unhygienic conditions, with mothers assisted during labor by untrained traditional birth attendants, family members or, at times, no one at all.

Most give birth on old mats, straw or the bare floor. The newborn's umbilical cord is generally cut on wood or a coin, with ash, dried cow dung or spiderwebs applied to the cord stump. It is no surprise that bacterial infections are common in infants and in new mothers.

To reduce the chance of infection in the mother and newborn at birth, Save the Children – with funding from UNICEF, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the U.S.-based nongovernmental organization PATH (Program for Appropriate Technology in Health) – developed a Clean Home Delivery Kit.

Produced locally and sold for use during home births to lower the risk of infections in mothers and infants, the kit contains a plastic sheet, a razor blade, string ties, a plastic disk for cutting and string for tying the umbilical cord, and a simple instruction sheet.

Nepal This simple and inexpensive Clean Home Delivery Kit reduces bacterial infections, one of the most frequent causes of death to mothers and newborns.

The cost per kit is about 40 cents (U.S.) and, to date, more than a quarter of a million have been sold through health centers, traditional birth attendants and small shops.

Today the kits are assembled, distributed and marketed by Maternal and Child Health Products Pvt. Ltd., a private, women-owned micro-enterprise in Kathmandu.

effects of iron deficiency on cognitive development and school performance. This is essential for adolescent girls in particular, as they prepare for pregnancy, childbirth and motherhood. School health programs allow these girls to stay in school longer, perform better, defer childbearing and have safer birth outcomes.

Opening the Door to Education

Illiteracy is a barrier to information, participation and well-being. When parents are illiterate, not only do they have fewer opportunities, but their children suffer as well. At Save the Children, universal access to quality education has been the overriding goal of our education program for more than a decade.

One of our primary objectives is to increase school attendance for girls and women in order to remedy the widespread inequality that exists.

We have seen that when girls are educated, they are more committed as mothers to sending their own daughters to school, and are much better equipped to provide for and look after their families.

Strong Beginnings, the education initiative we are implementing in 25 developing countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America, encompasses four program components: Early Childhood Development, Primary Education, Youth Development and Adult Literacy.

Strong Beginnings is not a standardized, preacademic curriculum. Rather, it addresses the total needs of the child including health, nutrition, family relationships and community participation, as well as the education basics, all within the context of the local society and customs.

All of our education programs share several essential criteria in that they are:

- Community-based
- Culturally sensitive
- Intergenerational
- Gender-balanced
- Holistic in nature

The cornerstone of Strong Beginnings is the Village Schools program, which brings education to underserved areas by training local people to create, manage and teach in their own community schools. Village schools have made a major impact on the education of girls and women in countries where local customs and poverty have traditionally discouraged it.

Save the Children works with communities to reduce barriers that inhibit girls' enrollment, retention and achievement in school. Situating the schools conveniently within a village, for example, makes parents less fearful for their daughters' safety en route to school.

In addition to providing educational opportunities for children who had none before, village schools improve the lives of children and their communities in several important ways:

- Children become educated, confident and capable on a level that compares with that of their counterparts in government schools, yet more cost-effectively.
- Training teachers creates local expertise, job opportunities and support for education.
- Community members have pride and a personal stake in the schools they helped to create, feelings that transfer to other areas of their lives.
- Children learn skills that help them understand, live and work in their own communities.

One of our most successful programs is in Malawi, where in the past year, 300,000 children were given the opportunity to go to school near their homes. Our accomplishments there earned the recognition of the U.S. Agency for International Development, which awarded Save the Children a second four-year grant to sustain and expand the program.

In Mali, the Village Schools program serves nearly 800 schools and 48,000 children. Even in the Afghan refugee villages in Pakistan, Save the Children has been serving 15,000 students in 45 schools.

With the help of a new Village Schools program training manual, written by our Malawi field staff, the program is currently being replicated in 24 other countries where we work.

Last year, Strong Beginnings launched an innovative literacy program in Guatemala that taught basic reading and writing in both Spanish and the local Mayan language. In addition to preserving the indigenous culture, this literacy program incorporated important health lessons, resulting in noticeably improved health and economic conditions.

Economic Opportunities Empower Women

The same philosophy that shapes the health and education programs at Save the Children also plays a crucial role in laying the groundwork for women's economic self-sufficiency. That philosophy is a simple one: helping women to help themselves economically has a measurable, positive effect on children.

In fact, several recent studies have clearly demonstrated that in households where women earn their own income, they spend more than either their husbands or nonworking mothers on their children's education and nutrition, and were more attentive to their children's and their own health care.

Very small businesses, or microenterprises, are critical sources of money for children's education, food and health care. Yet, the typical women-owned businesses — such as running small stores, selling handcrafts, raising

Malawi Children participate in outdoor activities at a village school developed with help from Save the Children.

livestock or farming – are often ignored because of their small size.

Save the Children's goal for these female microentrepreneurs is to build local institutions that provide ongoing access to financial services. Where such institutions already exist, we've established a working partnership to improve their capacity. In developing countries where there frequently are no existing partner organizations, our staff facilitates the creation of a self-sustaining local institution. Examples of this are Al Majmoua ("The Group" in Arabic) in

Every Mother, Every Child

Over the course of nearly 70 years, Save the Children has seen first-hand that when mothers are in good health, educated, and able to earn enough to meet their family's needs, their children are healthier, more educated, and have brighter prospects for the future.

Unfortunately, millions of women in developing countries are still trapped in a cycle of poverty, poor nutrition, illiteracy and inadequate health care. The odds seem truly stacked against them. Two thirds of the world's poor and illiterate are women. One woman dies every minute of every day from a pregnancy-related complication.

A Chance to Mobilize

In the year 2000, thanks to a multi-million-dollar grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, Save the Children is undertaking its largest effort ever to beat those odds. With the launch of Every Mother, Every Child, a 10-year education and advocacy campaign, we now have the opportunity to mobilize millions of Americans to take actions that will help provide mothers in the developing world with the tools they need to help their children survive and thrive:

- Reproductive health care, including voluntary family planning and maternal and child health services
- Education and literacy programs for girls and women
- Small business loans and other economic opportunities

Every Mother, Every Child is an exciting and ambitious campaign that includes a national network of leadership councils to broaden constituent support, a campaign website, advocacy to increase U.S. funding levels, media and special events to raise awareness, delegation trips to involve leading campaign supporters and help them to build grassroots support back in America, and strategic partnerships to strengthen and expand the work of the campaign with corporate and non-governmental support.

In a related effort, Save the Children has been invited to join a consortium of nonprofit organizations in a public education campaign also funded by the Packard Foundation. Called PLANet, this effort is designed to build awareness among the American public of the links between international family planning assistance and the global health of children, women and the environment.

State of the World's Mothers

On Sunday, May 12, 2000 – Mother's Day – Save the Children held a press conference in Washington, D.C. to release the findings of its ground-breaking report, the *State of the World's Mothers 2000.*

Bolivia This baby is healthy and happy because her mother is healthy and able to provide for her.

The report produced the first-ever country-by-country comparison measuring how 106 countries were meeting the basic needs of their mothers. It affirmed the strong link between the well-being of mothers and their children, and identified two principal factors that made a vital difference in how the countries ranked: female education and access to, and use of, family planning services.

The annual release of a *State of the World's Mothers* report, and the Mother's Day events surrounding it, will be the centerpiece of the Every Mother, Every Child campaign.

Last year's report and more information on the campaign may be found on-line at www.savethechildren.org/worldsmothers00.

planet

Lebanon, Micro-F in Armenia, and Constanta in the former Soviet republic of Georgia.

Save the Children helps women to develop and expand their business in two ways. Our primary strategy, Group Guaranteed Lending and Saving (GGLS), provides access to credit and savings for women in poverty. By forming groups, women guarantee one another's loans, which substitutes for formal collateral required by governments and lending institutions. Each member is eligible for a small initial loan, usually all that is needed to purchase materials to start growing rice, or chickens to raise to sell eggs. As the business expands, loans gradually increase in size as needed.

Our group lending programs have grown enormously. We now work with nearly 90,000 women in 16 countries whose businesses benefit approximately 348,000 children. In just one year, our loan portfolio has more than doubled from $4 million to $9 million.

As always, our programs are designed to create the conditions for lasting change. In Mali, for example, women save between 10 and 20 percent of what they borrow. This can then be used to invest in their businesses, pay for their children's education, or save for emergencies such as illness.

Save the Children also provides other business services, such as marketing assistance and training, in sectors of the economy that employ large numbers of women.

Through its economic opportunities program, Save the Children is helping to meet the goals of the Microcredit Summit Campaign launched in 1997 by policy makers and activists from 137 countries. The campaign has set a target of reaching 100 million of the world's poorest families by 2005, particularly *women* in those families, with credit and other financial and business services to create or expand small enterprises.

Meeting the Challenges of Global Hunger

Of the 800 million people in the world who are malnourished, approximately 200 million are children. For Save the Children, fundamental aspects of our relief and development programs are to keep children and their families free from hunger and to ensure that they have secure access to food that meets their needs for growth and development.

In developing countries, for example, the immediate goals are often to provide food to prevent starvation, to rehabilitate children who are malnourished, and to promote new development practices. This was crucial during several crises over the past year, and in regions of prolonged suffering, when we were active in programs such as school feeding and participation in pre- and postnatal education.

In addition to feeding children, Save the Children believes that it is essential to provide families with the skills and tools to combat hunger in the long term. This includes helping farmers to increase food production and income available for food purchases, and to improve local nutritional supervision and educational practices. This can be accomplished by introducing household gardens, improving marketing and agricultural production, and teaching mothers how to prepare more nutritious meals using locally available foods.

World Summit for Children

In September 2001, the United Nations will hold a three-day Special Session of the General Assembly in New York to mark the 10th anniversary of the first World Summit for Children and to review levels of national achievement with respect to implementing the goals set at the summit. It will also be an occasion to measure individual countries against the standards set in 1989 as part of the Convention of the Rights of the Child, the most widely ratified human rights treaty in history.

While notable progress has been made on some of the 27 goals for the year 2000 targeted by the first World Summit for Children, overall achievements are expected to fall short. For example, the World Bank estimates that over 600 million children are still struggling to survive on less than $1 a day.

Nevertheless, the focus of the special session will be a better future. New specific, time-bound objectives will be set, so that greater financial and humanitarian support can be mobilized for children.

Nearly 1,000 leaders are expected to attend, from government, nongovernmental organizations (including Save the Children), advocacy groups and children themselves. The International Save the Children Alliance will be working to ensure that clear goals are set to complete the unfinished agenda for children.

Children in Emergencies and Crisis

Ethiopia

Ethiopia Meriyama Mohamed uses a traditional clay pot to carry home water delivered by Save the Children to the Higlo Water Distribution Center.

Each year, millions of children and their families endure unspeakable hardships as a result of war, flood, famine and other natural and man-made disasters. Although the needs of children are greatest in these harrowing conditions, too often their voices cannot be not heard amid the chaos. This is what drives the Children in Emergencies and Crisis programs at Save the Children.

Meeting the Needs of Children in Crisis

When an emergency strikes, our field offices and U.S. headquarters implement a three-tiered program of rapid response and intervention to alleviate life-threatening situations.

Stage I provides:

- Food and micronutrients for emergency and therapeutic feeding
- Emergency shelters and medical attention
- Physical and emotional protection
- Education and psychosocial support

Stage II expands and intensifies the effort with:

- Continued education and psychosocial support
- Crop seeds, tools and small-loan programs
- Nutritional guidance and food distribution
- The meeting of reproductive health needs
- Protection from gender-based violence

After the crisis has faded from media and public attention, Save the Children works to ensure long-term rehabilitation and recovery in *Stage III* with:

- Reconstruction of local infrastructure
- Opportunities to earn food for work
- Community-based education and psychosocial programs
- Financial credit for microenterprises
- Targeted support to youth and adolescents during the transition period

This past year, for example, we assisted children and their families in coping with severe drought in Ethiopia, Afghanistan and the Caucasus. We also mobilized emergency support for victims of flooding in Mozambique and civil unrest in East Timor.

Recovery efforts continued to assist the victims of Hurricane Mitch in Central America and of the war in Kosovo with the restoration of infrastructure and the establishment of community-based education and psychosocial programs.

In East Timor we helped adolescents and youth groups to engage in the rehabilitation of their own communities following the devastation of the 1999 violence.

However, it is the rapidly growing number of reported HIV/AIDS cases, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, that may well prove to be the most devastating and enduring crisis we have ever had to face. Save the Children's COPE (Community-based Options for Protection and Empowerment) program to support AIDS orphans in Malawi has won international recognition as a model response to this crisis.

Saving Time Saves Lives

During a crisis, every passing moment increases the risk of harm and loss of life. The Halaby-Murphy Fund finances urgent start-up costs and enables Save the Children to reach children and their families within 72 hours after the onset of an emergency.

The fund was established to honor Allison and Najeeb Halaby, longtime Save the Children board members, and Thomas S. Murphy, chairman of the Board of Trustees. The permanent fund now stands at $1.5 million, and it is our goal to increase that to $10 million over the next few years.

The importance and effectiveness of this resource became evident during several crises in the past year:

First on the Scene in Ethiopia

Late in 1999, a severe drought hit lowland Ethiopia on the heels of three crop failures. Save the Children was the first international agency on the scene to report the extent of the drought emergency in the Somali region of southeastern Ethiopia, where an estimated 10 million people, half of them children, faced starvation.

The Story of Aysha

The story of one little girl named Aysha symbolizes both the tragedy and the hope that is taking place in Ethiopia today.

Ethiopia ranks third among the world's poorest countries, with almost 60 percent of its population living in absolute poverty.

It is also among those countries least able to feed its own people. As a result, approximately 64 percent of Ethiopian children under the age of five are considered stunted or at least moderately malnourished.

On top of this already desperate situation, the prolonged and severe drought last year put an estimated 5 million children at risk of starvation. Aysha was one of those children.

Save the Children was the only relief organization in the area at the time to deliver emergency nutrition and medical care. When Aysha was admitted to our therapeutic treatment center in Gode, she was in extremely serious condition, weak and listless. She required immediate medical attention and nutritional rehabilitation, as she was dehydrated and too weak even to feed herself. An intravenous drip was the only way to deliver the nutrients her body needed to regain basic functions. In the therapeutic feeding center, Aysha was treated for infections and also given a milk-based diet high in energy. In the rehabilitation phase, a cereal-based porridge was provided, fortified with essential nutrients.

After three months, Aysha was upgraded to supplementary feeding, which entailed easy to prepare foods fortified with essential vitamins and minerals. In addition, Aysha was encouraged to supplement her meals with the local foods.

Today, like thousands of other children in Ethiopia whose lives were threatened by famine, Aysha is up and about, feeding herself and getting stronger every day.

Ethiopia Severely malnourished, Aysha receives emergency nutrition and medical treatment at Save the Children's therapeutic treatment center in Gode.

During the Stage I initial rapid response, we delivered nearly 18 million liters of emergency water to more than 40,000 people in the region. In addition, we conducted studies to determine the best way to reestablish wells and boreholes near villages. Our Ethiopian field office is supervising the continuation of all these relief operations to ensure long-term recovery.

By February 2000, in partnership with local nongovernmental organizations, we began a nutritional program for young children who were most affected by the drought. This included the opening of a therapeutic feeding center for those who were starving and needed intensive treatment, and supplementary feeding centers for malnourished children to speed them on the road to recovery. At both types of centers, children and their families received food, along with essential health, water and sanitation services. All the patients and their siblings were vaccinated against life-threatening disease and treated for diarrheal diseases, malaria and acute respiratory infections.

Our efforts for sustained recovery included the training of nearly 100 community health workers and feeding center staff to administer continuing health care and nutrition to those in need, as well as the distribution of household kits with basic provisions for families displaced by the crisis.

As the children began to regain their strength, we conducted important hygiene education classes. They were taught in the local language and attended by over 700 people daily.

Since most of the families in the southern part of Ethiopia depend on their herds of camels, cattle, goats, horses and sheep for food and livelihood, veterinary care was essential to keep the animals healthy. We supplied vaccines for 500,000 livestock and helped to create a veterinary association that trained local people to provide animal health services.

Drought in Asia

An estimated 70 million people living in Afghanistan, Georgia, Pakistan and Tajikistan were also victims of severe drought – the worst in living memory. Children manifested signs of severe malnutrition, and families migrated by the hundreds of thousands in search of food, water and employment, disrupting children's lives and education.

Save the Children was in a strong position to respond to the emergency, as it had been working in the region since 1985 and was one of

the few international nongovernmental organizations with offices and programs in the most severely affected areas.

In these four countries, where the harvest was completely ruined, our field personnel helped farmers plant new crops by rehabilitating the land, extending loans and providing seeds. In Georgia alone, we supervised the distribution of more than $2 million worth of drought emergency packages – which included seed, hay and diesel fuel – and provided credit to farmers for supplies and equipment to help them reestablish their farms.

Floods Devastate Mozambique

In early 2000, massive floods swept through Mozambique, caused by persistent rain and a devastating cyclone. Surging waters from the Limpopo River drove close to 1 million Mozambicans from their homes.

The Gaza region, where we have worked since 1988, was especially hard hit. Food instantly became scarce, and even where it was available, transport was complicated by washed out roadways. On one very dramatic day in April, we delivered 55 tons of food via helicopter to 13,000 people who were on isolated pockets of land completely surrounded by floodwater.

Since the spread of disease, especially cholera and malaria, is always a high risk under these conditions, our health team immediately provided inoculations and emergency health care. We also trained 410 local community health volunteers, who played a key role in reaching more than 70,000 people with information about the treatment and prevention of life-threatening illnesses, including cholera, malaria and diarrhea.

As the waters receded, we registered many children who were separated from their families and began to search for their relatives and neighbors. Thanks to a generous donation from the Polaroid Corporation, Save the Children was given enough cameras and film to produce instant photos of separated children. More than 100 children have been reunited with their families, and the effort continues.

When planting became feasible, we distributed corn, bean and vegetable seeds – along with two hoes, an ax and a machete – to each of 5,000 families so they could begin to replant their fields. Housing kits – including zinc sheets for roofing and binding wire – enabled 3,000 families to rebuild their homes. We also worked with UNICEF to reconstruct primary schools throughout the region.

Armed Conflict in East Timor

With initial funding from the Halaby-Murphy Fund, Save the Children brought vital assistance to those displaced by the violence that followed East Timor's bid for independence. The United Nations estimated that 80–95 percent of houses and public buildings were destroyed in the fighting, and electricity and water systems were severely damaged. Hundreds of thousands have been forced to flee their homes.

Save the Children distributed 3,500 emergency shelter kits that included timber, corrugated iron sheeting, cement and tools for construction.

Mozambique Children and families, displaced from their homes by devastating floods, gather at the Wenela Camp for food and shelter.

East Timor Save the Children helps to distribute water, food and shelter materials to thousands who were forced to flee armed conflict in their villages.

We also implemented psychosocial programs through the Child Protection and Psychosocial Programs Consortium to promote healing and the healthy development of children and adolescents affected by this crisis.

The community-based protection, psychosocial and reconciliation programs that were created are now providing structured, normalizing activities for the children. Community and youth participation in the development and implementation of these programs was integral to the project, which is benefiting more than 100,000 people.

Save the Children also began work in the troubled area of Aceh to restore primary health care services and provide psychosocial activities for those who had been displaced and traumatized by the disturbances there. This village-based program seeks to train women and adolescents to implement the services through their own local community centers.

Staying the Course

Of all of Save the Children's emergency response and relief efforts, Stage III is what determines our long-term success. As soon as possible after a crisis has passed, we shift focus to help people rebuild their lives and their communities for the future. We move beyond emergency relief to true rehabilitation to help them become more physically, psychologically and economically secure.

For example, when Hurricane Mitch struck Nicaragua and Honduras in 1998, we were part of a massive relief effort to save lives and provide food, shelter and health care to hundreds of thousands of people displaced by floods and mud slides. Even though the immediate crisis has subsided, we continue to work in both countries to assist in the rebuilding of the infrastructure — homes, roads, water systems and bridges. Last year we helped rebuild more than 4,000 houses in Honduras alone.

We've also been conducting rehabilitation programs to facilitate children's access to health care and education, and to help the population regain a feeling of security.

Kosovo was also a focus of emergency work a year ago: we reunified families separated in the region's conflict and provided safe places for children to learn and play. Although the hostilities have abated, we continue to work for the children. We recently appointed a protection officer to work with UN agencies, nonprofit organizations and others in Kosovo to ensure that children are protected and nurtured.

The Growing Threat of HIV/AIDS

The HIV/AIDS epidemic today is significantly more extensive than what was predicted a decade ago by the World Health Organization. At the year's end, it is estimated that 36 million people were living with HIV or AIDS; approximately 3.8 million new infections were reported in the year 2000 alone. Four million children have already died from the disease, and estimates are that 40 million more will be orphaned within 10 years.

In response, Save the Children has stepped up its efforts to provide humanitarian assistance and international leadership. Recognizing the catastrophic effect of the pandemic on community and family life and

on children's growth and well-being, we are taking specific action to strengthen the capacity of communities to care for those directly affected by HIV/AIDS.

Save the Children's COPE program in Malawi combines current field-based resources with program expertise in health, education and economic development in a proven approach that is child-focused and woman-centered.

In 2000, for example, the COPE program mobilized 229 AIDS committees to build community support for AIDS orphans, encourage home-care of people infected with HIV and promote education about HIV/AIDS prevention. Nearly 250 youth clubs have been formed and 23,500 AIDS orphans are being supported by village AIDS committees. Programs based on the COPE model have also already helped communities in Ethiopia, Mali and Mozambique to learn about the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS, and will soon be launched in other countries.

In August, Save the Children joined a consortium of nongovernmental organizations to focus on the needs of the millions of African children impacted by HIV/AIDS. "Bringing Hope to Children: Community-based Solutions for African Children Affected by HIV/AIDS" is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and will mobilize communities to implement high-impact, low-cost interventions to save and improve the lives children affected by the disease.

Unnatural Disasters

Children also fall victim to disasters other than those created by nature:

- Every year 700,000 women and children are trafficked across borders; 50,000 of them enter the United States
- 30 to 40 percent of land-mine victims are children under the age of 15, nearly 10,000 a year
- In developing countries, 250 million children between the ages of 5 and 14 work instead of attending school
- Every day, more than 5,000 children are newly displaced by war or armed conflict

There can be no higher priority than to help save children who are in crises such as these. Through proven and innovative programs, Save the Children works every day to protect the physical and emotional well-being of children at risk, to provide safety from exploitation and abuse, and to advocate for their rights as children.

Crimes Against Children: The Youngest Soldiers

In April 2000, *Scientific American* published an article entitled "Children of the Gun" by Neil Boothby and Christine Knudsen, Director and Program Officer, respectively, of Save the Children's Children in Crisis section. It drew public attention to the appalling practice of using young boys, and often girls, to fight for guerrilla and rebel forces in developing countries. These children are forced to lose their family, their chance for an education, their childhood, and sometimes their lives. A few key excerpts follow:

"Every day, all around the world, children are abducted and recruited into armed forces. An estimated 300,000 children are actively participating in 36 ongoing (or recently ended) conflicts in Asia, Europe, Africa, the Americas and the former Soviet Union."

"For many people, the term 'child soldier' conjures up images of a teenage boy with an automatic weapon in hand. But in truth, both governmental forces and irregular armies use boys and girls as young as six."

Uganda This soldier, not yet a man, is being robbed of his childhood and his future.

"... despite the widespread use of children under 18 as soldiers and recent advances in international law to prohibit the practice, the plight of these young people has never been mentioned in any peace agreement. The neglect has crippled the social and psychological development of a generation of children."

Save the Children recognizes the need to help these exploited children as an urgent priority for today's generation. We have designed a new child recruitment prevention program and the issue has been added to our advocacy agenda.

America's Forgotten Children

Kentucky

California Destiny is two years old and, with her family, participates in programs at the Sunset Youth Services Center.

Today, despite economic growth of historic proportions, too many of our children are left behind. Nearly 14 million American children — one out of every six — are growing up below the poverty level.

When Save the Children's work began in 1932, it was to develop a school lunch program for the children of unemployed coal miners in remote Appalachian hamlets. Since then, many exciting new initiatives and programs have been implemented that help Save the Children identify and address the unmet needs of the poorest children in many other areas of the United States.

Our work now also involves activities for children during their out-of-school time, participation by community groups and senior citizens, as well as the introduction of new technologies into the programs.

Save the Children's Web of Support for U.S. Children is a national initiative in rural and urban neighborhoods of poverty that supports both children and the community organizations that serve them in their non-school hours.

The Web of Support is one of the most ambitious domestic initiatives Save the Children has undertaken in its nearly seven decades of service to children in need. It provides children and youth who are alone and unsupervised during non-school hours the opportunity to direct their energies away from the temptation of delinquency, gangs, juvenile crime, drugs, alcohol and early sexual activity, and towards positive pursuits. Every day, an estimated 5 million such children have no adult supervision during non-school hours and are at risk for becoming involved in unhealthy behaviors.

We find that children who participate in quality after-school programs not only do better in school, they are also less likely to get into trouble.

Our Unique Approach

Save the Children's successful Web of Support programs have made it a national leader in this field. The programs vary regionally, but they all combine the three components that are strongly linked and supported by child development research:

- *Caring Adults* are essential to a child's ability to overcome the effects of poverty, to provide the framework and motivation for quality community programs and to network with additional resources.
- *Safe Places* create opportunities for children to interact with caring adults and peers in environments conducive to learning and growth.
- *Constructive Activities* enable children to discover and develop their academic, vocational and social skills. Children benefit from tutoring and homework assistance, reading and math programs, arts activities, and cultural and recreational enrichment.

Programs also offer excellent opportunities for youth leadership development, including internships and participation in an annual Youth Summit, as well as computer and job skills training.

We are able to demonstrate measurable results for children and youth participating in the Web of Support programs through an outcome evaluation process, that is then used as the basis for program quality improvements.

Making a Difference

The Web of Support began in 1997 with 2,000 children. Our programs now reach over 125,000 children and teens in 19 states. The broader impact of the Web of Support has been calculated to reach over 500,000 people including children, families and community members.

In the past three years, the Web of Support has helped to turn many children's lives around. A recent evaluation found that:

- 80 percent of the children who received tutoring or homework help improved or maintained high academic performance.
- 73 percent improved their cognitive, social and emotional growth.
- 60 percent in reading programs met or exceeded expectations in reading levels.

The Web of Support's ability to stimulate the academic and personal growth of children and youth in their non-school time has been documented in an initiative-wide evaluation. Here are some of the outcomes we have seen in the past year:

- In South Fentress, Tennessee, 90 percent of the children in a tutoring program significantly improved their grades in at least one subject.
- In rural Kentucky, 80 percent of all the children in a computer club improved their skills, including use of the Internet.
- In Halifax County, Virginia, more than half the children in after-school programs improved academically by one or more letter grades.
- At Zuni Pueblo in New Mexico, a four-week summer program spurred interest in reading through storytelling, art activities and contests. By the end of the program, most of the children had read more than 20 books.
- In a San Francisco after-school program, more than 75 percent of the students improved their study habits and 72 percent said they were now more interested in school.

Last year Save the Children published The Web of Support, a "tool kit" to enable civic, religious and educational leaders and organizations to provide safe, nurturing learning environments during out-of-school time in their communities. This hands-on guide gives groups and communities the information they need to conduct after-school activities using the Web of Support model.

In writing about the kit, General Colin L. Powell, U.S.A. (Ret.), chairman of America's Promise – The Alliance for Youth, said: "The Web of Support Guidebook ... is a practical, how-to guide that shares best practices and proven techniques from all across the country. I hope it will inspire widespread grassroots efforts to knit a national Web of Support for our youth."

Save the Children continues to focus on bringing its Web of Support programs in the United States to scale. We have targeted the neediest communities that have the highest percentage of children living in poverty nationwide and will provide their youth with life-changing opportunities and the skills needed to succeed. Families in these areas live in extreme poverty, with an average yearly income of $5,000 or less.

Encouraging Teen Leaders

The Web of Support is based on the principle that the best programs for children and teens are designed *with* them, not simply *for* them.

Last year, young people throughout the country participated in our Youth Internship program, learning ways to help children and develop leadership skills. They collaborated with their peers and other volunteers to create community events, service projects and programs for local children. They also participated in workshops and meetings that addressed critical issues they face every day, such as substance abuse, violence, poor

Ohio Ashleigh, 8, and Ashley, 10, become friends at an after school program that is part of Save the Children's Web of Support.

New Mexico Angelina, Narrah and Peter peak out of their playground beehive in an early childhood development center in Taos.

academic performance, racism, peer pressure and low self-esteem.

On March 27, 2000, 100 of these interns and other youth leaders came to Washington, D.C. for our second annual National Youth Summit. They met together for leadership training and workshops on such topics as youth mentoring and legislative activities. They also presented a report to Congress demonstrating the effectiveness of the Web of Support initiative and urged more funding for after-school programs.

One month later, one of these teen leaders and a sponsored child herself, Emily McDonald from Tennessee, was a featured speaker at the White House Conference on Teenagers: Raising Responsible and Resourceful Youth. At the invitation of President and Mrs. Clinton, Emily shared her thoughts with leading educators, researchers, donors and policy makers about the needs of today's youth and the impact of after-school programs in poor communities.

Making Noise on the Web

Teenagers are idealistic, energetic, communicative and determined to make a difference. Save the Children considers them to be among its most valuable resources and is piloting an innovative web-based campaign — called YouthNOISE — to inform, connect and mobilize teens throughout the country to help children and youth worldwide.

The YouthNOISE website will provide the inspiration, tools and community to empower teens to help children. The website will be supported by a public service ad campaign that is designed to overcome key barriers to youth involvement.

Through its website, YouthNOISE will provide comprehensive information about issues that concern children and youth and direct them to information and resources provided by an array of nonprofit partners. It will also offer guidance on fund-raising, volunteer opportunities, ways to influence political leaders and media, and programs that youth can organize themselves.

YouthNOISE is also a forum for shared experiences, new ideas, humor and interactive fun. A regular feature will profile teens who are making a difference and will supply information about awards and scholarships.

By raising awareness about the needs of children worldwide and giving young people opportunities to be a part of the solution, YouthNOISE will help build a new generation of leaders committed to helping children.

Saving and Serving in Mississippi

The median household income in rural Quitman County, Mississippi, is approximately $8,500.

Save the Children is helping to break the cycle of poverty and dependency there through a youth credit union program with the Quitman County Development Organization. CEO Robert Jackson says he created the program to give local youth a means to learn financial skills and to develop leadership qualities and self-esteem.

With a weekly deposit of $1 or $2, just over 300 members have built the credit union's assets to nearly $34,000 in two years. The members are eligible for loans up to the amount they have on deposit, and repay the money over time.

Besides financial rewards, the program teaches youth the value of community service. They volunteer their time to deliver hot meals to the elderly, help at the day-care center, and deliver boxes of food to the needy.

"It just makes me feel good," says 19-year-old Kenya P. about volunteering to help others. "I know I am helping make their life better or easier."

Manuel K., 21, who has served as president of the youth credit union, says his involvement has paid other dividends as well, such as learning to speak in public, becoming skilled at greeting people, and keeping a positive attitude.

The ultimate lesson of the program, notes Jackson, is that the young people of Quitman County are saving their money, learning how to manage it, and then giving of themselves to their community.

Alabama Foster grandparent Gertrude Jackson with "her" children: Dearius, 6, Shana, 8, Kanisha, 7, and David, 11.

This project has been funded by a $1 million grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, with assistance from several corporations that are contributing services and in-kind donations including Vignette, IBM, Intel, U.S. Interactive, Homestead, Infopop, E-Satisfy and Ellipsis Partners.

Partners Who Care

Save the Children is fortunate to have many partners who share our vision for children in America.

- Denny's has contributed more than $5 million to our U.S. programs, over the past five years. Over $1 million was raised in 2000 through a variety of in-store promotions in which customers were invited to participate. In addition, Denny's restaurants sponsor 1,000 U.S. children. Both company- and franchise-owned restaurants are part of the Save the Children effort.
- T.J. Maxx ran a three-week back-to-school promotion during which customers were asked if they wanted to add $1 to their purchases at checkout for Save the Children. So many caring customers agreed that the promotion raised almost $500,000. T.J. Maxx plans to repeat this promotion every year for the next five years.
- US Airways has consistently supported our programs by providing free airline travel for participants to attend Save the Children programs and events. Over 23 million miles have been donated since the program began in 1998.
- This past year, Save the Children expanded the Foster Grandparents initiative, funded by the National Senior Service Corps of the Corporation for National Service, a federal agency. More than 700 senior citizens were directly involved in community programs for young people as a result of the program. Some were members of intergenerational teams that performed community service or took courses together; others worked one-on-one with sponsored children sharing crafts, cultural traditions and learning projects. The Foster Grandparents program is an important component of the Web of Support because it encourages different generations to develop mutual trust and friendship.
- Under a generous grant from the Corporation for National Service, Save the Children is recruiting 75 AmeriCorps volunteers to work with 9,000 children and youth in 27 of the poorest rural communities in the nation. AmeriCorps also helped us acquire more than $425,000 worth of donated funds, goods and services.
- Save the Children's Ad Council campaign, "Do Good: Mentor a Child," continues to earn high honors, including a Gold AME (Advertising Effectiveness), a Silver Effie award, best TV Public Sevice Ad by the National Broadcasters' Association of

Community Affairs, best mentoring campaign by the National Mentoring Partnership, and an Emmy award nomination. In television, radio, print, outdoor and Internet ads, the campaign encourages Americans to volunteer as mentors for young people at risk in their communities, and offers a toll-free Mentoring Hotline (1-877-Be-A-Mentor) to help them get involved. So far, nearly 40,000 people have responded to this campaign, and early research indicates that more than 20 percent of them have become mentors. In addition, we recently partnered with the Harvard Business School Alumni Association to launch a pilot mentoring program in East Los Angeles, California.

Save the Children takes very seriously the responsibility of helping the poorest children in this country, as well as those in other parts of the world. We are committed to breaking the bonds of poverty and to bringing hope and opportunity to the American children who need it most, so that they will not remain forgotten.

An Advocate for Youth and Native Americans

To meet someone like Jocelyn Billy is to understand the importance and power of opportunity.

As a sponsored child growing up on the Navajo Reservation in Chinle, Arizona, Jocelyn had the chance to participate in reading and cultural enrichment programs, and to receive support and encouragement from a caring couple in New York City. By the time she reached high school, through her connection with Save the Children's Web of Support, she had developed a strong sense of community service and learned how to lead several after-school activities for pre-teens in her town.

In May 2000, Jocelyn was invited to speak of her experiences at the Women's Empowerment Forum where newscaster Diane Sawyer presented Queen Noor of Jordan with the Women's Leadership Award for her work on behalf of women and children worldwide. She described the after-school program's positive influence on the young children in Chinle and her efforts to lobby the government for a youth center.

Arizona Jocelyn Billy, a former sponsored child and currently a youth leader at her Navajo reservation in Arizona, meets television newscaster, Diane Sawyer, at the Women's Empowerment Forum.

"I really have a soft spot in my heart for Save the Children," she said recently. "Their programs give me and my community a sense of empowerment, the feeling that we can really do something."

Jocelyn now attends college in Arizona, where she is majoring in both political science and applied indigenous studies, and setting her sights on law school.

Washington, D.C. American teenagers in Save the Children's intern leadership program meet with U.S. Rep. Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.), and advocate for more after-school programs.

Community Solutions Through Sponsorship

Bolivia, Malawi, Mozambique
Mexico, Egypt, United States

Philippines As a sponsored child, Maria Christie, 6, and her family benefit from Save the Children's Agro-Environment Productivity program.

Save the Children began sponsorship as a personal way for people to help children and families struggling in isolated Appalachian communities during the Great Depression. Their contributions provided support for one-room schoolhouses where children living in poverty were receiving education, nutrition and other vital services.

In 1940, funds from individual child sponsorship helped European children caught in the maelstrom of World War II. There was a tremendous outpouring of support among Americans: in just two years, 12,000 European children were sponsored by individuals, clubs and other organizations in America.

More recently, Save the Children expanded its sponsorship options from individual children to include entire communities and specific programs, allowing sponsors to direct their support to areas that are most important to them.

Today, close to 85,000 people in the United States are Save the Children sponsors. They have over 96,000 sponsorships in 18 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and the United States.

Sponsorship in Action

Sponsorship is the foundation upon which Save the Children builds its community programs. Support from sponsors, combined with the expertise and assistance of our field staff and other sources of revenue, enables individual communities to help design, implement and sustain the activities that improve health, education and economic opportunities for children and their families.

Love Letters

Children who are sponsored through Save the Children are often moved to write to the organization to express their appreciation. Here are two of our favorites:

Dear Friends,

My name is Amgad Haleem Malak and I have the pleasure to write all of you. I've been sponsored since 1998. Through Save the Children, I have friends in the USA with whom I communicate. It gives me the chance to know new people from a different culture. ... In summer, Save holds summer camps in which my friends and I participate annually. I practice many activities such as art, sports, domestic studies and sewing. My peers and I have undergone some medical tests through Save's health program. All these activities that Save provides us with give us courage and help us to exert more effort at school.

Amgad Haleem Malak
a sponsored child in Egypt

Dear Friends,

My name is Jose Samuel Callejas. I am 23 years old from the community of San Agustin, where Save the Children worked for about 14 years. I have grown up as a Save the Children child because I have participated and benefited from the programs carried out in my community since I was nine years old. I feel proud to have had Save the Children support in my community.

Who am I now? I am a key member of the Community Development Association from my community. I am the secretary and one of my responsibilities is to work with other members for the improvement and development of our community. As we say, "la unión hace la fuerza" (working together we are stronger).

I hope that, as you have helped me since I was a child, you will continue helping many other children from my country. Thank you ... you have changed my life!

Jose Samuel
a sponsored child in El Salvador

Here are some examples of community solutions through sponsorship programs from this past year:

Malawi

Village committees were formed to manage communal gardens that will enable families and communities to reduce seasonal food shortages and help the neediest members of their communities survive.

Lebanon

Save the Children partnered with community leaders to hold an eight-day summer training camp for youth club volunteers who attended sessions on, among other things, human rights, the environment, reproductive health and career guidance; they also enjoyed activities in music, art, theater and folklore dancing.

Bolivia

For students who had never before had their eyes tested, Save the Children developed a new program, Visual Health, together with schools, parents and municipal governments, to provide eye exams and prescriptive glasses.

Haiti

A growing network of involved mothers, who carry out literacy programs and assist health agents with immunization, nutrition and family planning activities, last year tripled the reach of these services, to over 70,000 people.

Bangladesh

An innovative Reading for Children initiative provided newly literate adults an opportunity to practice their skills, and benefit children simultaneously, by reading story books aloud.

New Mexico (United States)

The Web of Support program partnered with Native American and Hispanic communities to provide sponsored children with training in

A Sponsor's Journey

The levels of involvement by sponsors vary, from simple donations to writing letters (including e-mail!) to sending packages to making personal visits. This connection, in whatever form, is vital for both the sponsors and their sponsored children, as it makes our relief and development efforts very real and enduring.

One Save the Children sponsor, Fred Milder of Brookline, Massachusetts, traveled around the world to Nepal. The two-and-a-half-hour meeting with his sponsored child moved him deeply. "The best way I can describe it," he said, "is that it's a religious experience to go through something like this."

Milder, a Save the Children sponsor since 1990, still gets emotional when he recalls the brief visit with his nine-year-old sponsored child, Indu, two years ago.

Indu lives in a 12-foot-square, one-room, windowless, stone and mud house with her mother, sister and brother. The shoes he brought as gifts were the first they'd ever owned.

"These people live extremely difficult lives," he said, describing the rocky, barren land, the lack of electricity and running water, and the monsoons that flood the dirt roads and isolate them for six months every year.

On this trip to Asia organized by Save the Children, Milder witnessed firsthand the literacy classes, health programs and agricultural guidance that form a part of the organization's work in the region. "I definitely got a sense of how [Save] does its work, and that it is sustainable."

Today, with his wife and two daughters, Fred Milder sponsors a total of four children.

Nepal Sponsor Fred Milder enjoys a special moment with his sponsored child, Indu, during a visit to her remote village.

the use of multimedia technologies that help to develop their academic capacity, technical competence and life skills.

Nepal

Nearly 2,200 children were enrolled in 87 Community-based Child Development Centers, where native teachers not only provided excellent preparation for school, but also actively practiced gender and ethnic equality, instead of caste separation, among Mochi, Tharu and Tamang preschoolers.

El Salvador

The first Youth Festival for Peace involved theatrical presentations and craft workshops that helped over 500 children and adults express the need for violence prevention efforts amid the current political unrest.

Mozambique

Community health volunteers, trained by Save the Children, disseminated information to local families on the prevention of diseases, including cholera, malaria and HIV/AIDS, and on the importance of immunization against measles and polio.

Southeast United States

Many new Foster Grandparents have joined Save the Children's intergenerational education program and, through personalized attention and tutoring, helped children learn to enjoy reading and improve their skills.

Philippines

More than 8,000 children received free medical and dental checkups at Save the Children-sponsored health fairs, held in each of our project communities. Summer camp for youth leaders addressed topics such as parent and family life as well as dating and gender-related issues, and helped our field office identify adolescents who would volunteer in other community activities.

Philippines Three-year-old Nema, a sponsored child, holds on tightly to her mother, a day care worker in the city of Guimaras.

Mexico

A Center for the Development of Children and Youth was built for the community of Colonia Beltrones, where the city's poorest children and their parents can now gather in a safe environment and participate in constructive activities.

The Legacy of Sponsorship

The benefits of community solutions through sponsorship go beyond the individual children who are helped by the programs. Many children sponsored by Save the Children, imbued with the spirit of community service and prepared with skills acquired through the programs, grow up to return the kindness to others in need.

Ihsan Bzeih is a perfect example. As a child growing up in south Lebanon, Ihsan said that being sponsored meant that there were activities to become involved in and reasons to be optimistic about the future. As he explains it, his work "evolved from being in the sponsorship program to [being] a volunteer in one of the youth clubs, where the children's education is enhanced by the arts." Ihsan has developed a strong sense of responsibility towards society and the importance of "raising hope in the hearts of children."

Yet Ihsan is far from unique. Lacinan Seogo of Burkina Faso became one of Save the Children's sponsored children in 1990 when he was eight years old. Now 18, he has been certified by Save the Children's Teacher Training Program and is teaching children, to read, write and do arithmetic in Babdo, the village where he grew up. This, in a country where the literacy rate is just 19 percent, and 20 percent of the children don't live to see their fifth birthday.

Stories like these can be found every day around the world. By giving those in need a hand up, instead of a hand out, Save the Children ensures that community-based solutions to the problems of disease, malnutrition, illiteracy and poverty, will not only last a lifetime, but will also be passed on to future generations.

Our Global Neighborhood

Save the Children in the United States

Save the Children currently works in 19 states with children from many of the poorest rural and urban areas of the country.

Where We Work

Save the Children U.S. works in 47 countries plus the United States. We are part of the International Save the Children Alliance, a worldwide partnership of 26 independent Save the Children organizations that work to ensure children's well-being and to protect their rights everywhere. Together, Alliance organizations operate in more than 100 countries around the world.

☐ SAVE THE CHILDREN US

☐ INTERNATIONAL SAVE THE CHILDREN ALLIANCE

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Financial Report

Egypt Sponsored children, like Sallam Mohamod Ali riding the family donkey, enjoy the benefits of good health, an education and the opportunity to make a life for himself and his future family.

Mexico Save the Children's field office in Mexico works with remote rural communities like this one in Obregon to develop health and education programs that ensure the well-being of the children.

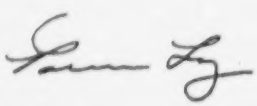
The financial management team at Save the Children is focused on responsibly managing our financial resources and supporting the organization in its mission to help the greatest number of children in the countries where we work. We adhere to the highest standards of accountability and ensure that donor contributions are used efficiently, effectively and in strict accordance with the intent of our contributors.

I am pleased to report that Save the Children's operating revenues for fiscal year 2000, including all restricted and unrestricted sources, totaled $140 million, an increase of 24 percent over the previous fiscal year. Our extensive portfolio of government grants and contracts has continued to grow with an impressive increase of 42 percent this year, to $71.3 million. Save the Children's private fund-raising was particularly strong in 2000. The total amount of private gifts, grants, contracts, child sponsorships and bequests increased by $6.1 million.

Our operating expenditures grew in 2000 by 22 percent, compared to the growth rate of operating revenues of 24 percent. Total program expenditures increased 28 percent with the majority of growth in the areas of emergency response and primary health. Also noteworthy is that while there was significant growth in program expenditures, the management and fund-raising expenses increased only 2 percent over the previous year. We will continue to work to reduce the amount of funds spent on fund-raising and management and to increase the amount spent on program services.

The foundation for our continued strong financial performance is based on the excellence of the Save the Children employees and the quality of the programs and services we deliver that positively impact children both in the United States and around the world.

The highlights of our audited financial reports are on the following page. The full financial statements, audited by KPMG LLP, are available upon request. The complete report is available on our website at www.savethechildren.org.

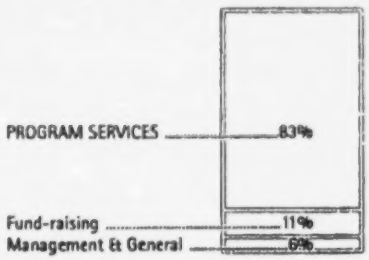


Patricia Long
Vice President,
Finance and Administration
Treasurer

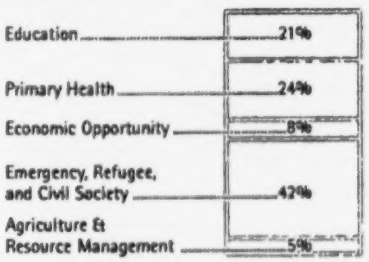
Condensed Financial Information

	FY 2000	FY 1999
Operating Support and Revenue		
Child Sponsorship	24,507,000	23,668,000
Private Gifts, Grants & Contracts (incl. Bequests)	40,929,000	35,658,000
Government Grants & Contracts	71,329,000	50,271,000
Other Revenue	3,558,000	3,800,000
Total Operating Support and Revenue	$140,323,000	$113,397,000
Operating Expenses and Changes in Net Assets		
Program Services		
Education	24,174,000	23,408,000
Primary Health	27,171,000	18,035,000
Economic Opportunity	8,472,000	8,409,000
Agriculture & Resource Management	5,187,000	3,831,000
Emergency, Refugee, and Civil Society	47,584,000	34,574,000
Total Program Services	112,588,000	88,257,000
Fund-raising	15,008,000	14,911,000
Management & General	7,951,000	7,594,000
Total Operating Expenses	$135,547,000	$110,762,000
Excess of Operating Support & Revenue over Operating Expenses	4,776,000	2,635,000
Non-Operating Activity	3,302,000	842,000
Increase in Net Assets	$8,078,000	$3,477,000
Net Assets, Beginning of Fiscal Year	$30,441,000	$26,964,000
Net Assets, End of Fiscal Year	$38,519,000	$30,441,000

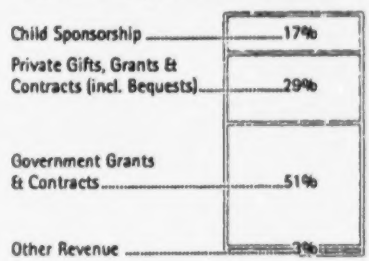
How Expenses Were Allocated



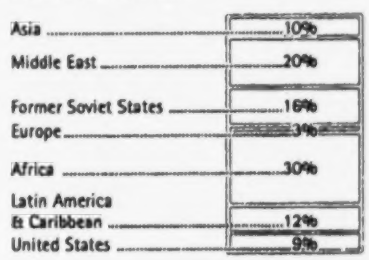
Nature of Our Programs



Sources of Support and Revenue



Where We Worked



Our Supporters

Save the Children is very fortunate to have a galaxy of supporters — individuals, corporations, foundations, government and nongovernmental agencies, and multi-lateral organizations — who support our efforts on behalf of children and their families. We are grateful that they are active partners in our work to meet the needs of children in the United States and around the world. The following lists highlight some of the people and institutions that did so much for Save the Children during our 2000 fiscal year, which ended September 30, 2000.

Angola A young girl attends school in Sumbe.

Children's Circle

Save the Children salutes the extraordinary generosity of donors who contributed $50,000 or more during our 2000 fiscal year, which ended on September 30, 2000. Many of these donors also made annual, unrestricted gifts of between $1,000 to $50,000 or more to Save the Children's global mission. They are recognized as Save the Children Champions in addition to being listed below. Donors who sponsored four or more children are denoted with an asterisk (*).

$1,000,000 and up

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The following valued contributors made major donations to Save the Children during our 2000 fiscal year, which ended on September 30, 2000. Donors who sponsored four or more children are denoted with an asterisk (*).

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Sponsors of Multiple Children

Almost 90,000 people are sponsors through Save the Children. Together, they provide the single largest source of Save the Children's private funding. Those extraordinarily generous donors who sponsor four or more children are recognized throughout the following report on gifts (on pages 32 to 46), with an asterisk (*) after their names.

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Alan and Hope Winters*
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$1,000 to $4,999

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United States Brady is a four-year-old sponsored child who attends a pre-school children's center in rural Tennessee.

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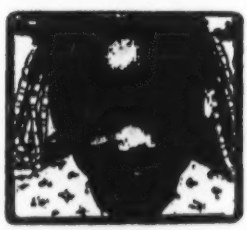

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Malawi The AIDS pandemic is devastating entire communities and leaving millions of children, like this young girl, orphaned and homeless.

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